

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00380 171348 Z

53

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 IO-12 RSR-01 /073 W

----- 089807

R 171300 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3482

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY BONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 380

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS SF

SUBJ: QUIET DEMONSTRATION MARKS END OF FREE ASSEMBLY IN
CENTRAL CAPE TOWN

REF: CAPE TOWN A-48 (TO BE POUCHED MAY 18, 1973)

1. SMALL GROUP MADE UP MOSTLY OF STUDENTS GATHERED IN FRONT OF ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, ADJACENT TO PARLIAMENT, MAY 16 TO PROTEST AGAINST GATHERINGS AND DEMONSTRATIONS BILL. LATTER -- WHICH EFFECTIVELY BANS DEMONSTRATIONS IN LARGE AREA OF CENTRAL CAPE TOWN OSTENSIBLY TO PROTECT PARLIAMENT -- RECEIVED THIRD AND FINAL READING IN HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY MAY 15.

2. POLICE OBTAINED MAGISTRATE'S ORDER PROHIBITING THE MAY 16 GATHERING AND ARRESTED 44 PERSONS, INCLUDING 41 STUDENTS, FOR FAILING TO DISPERSE OR, IN ONE CASE, OBSTRUCTING A POLICE OFFICER. DEMONSTRATORS WERE LATER RELEASED ON TOKEN BAIL. THEY ARE DUE TO APPEAR IN MAGISTRATES COURT MAY 17 TO FACE CHARGES. TWO NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS HAD FILM CONFISCATED.

3. SIGNIFICANTLY, MINISTER OF JUSTICE P. C. PELSER SIMULTANEOUSLY BANNED ALL PROTEST MEETINGS NEAR PARILAMENT -- IN TERMS OF THE RIOTOUS ASSEMBLIES ACT -- UNTIL MAY 30 WHEN
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00380 171348 Z

GATHERINGS AND DEMONSTRATIONS BILL PRESUMABLY ENTERS INTO EFFECT.

4. CIVIL RIGHTS LEAGUE, WESTERN CAPE BLACK SASH, WESTERN CAPE REGION OF PROGRESSIVE PARTY, SIR RICHARD LUYT (PRINCIPAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN), AND OTHER LIBERAL INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS HAVE ISSUED STATEMENTS DEPLORING THE GATHERINGS AND DEMONSTRATIONS BILL AND THE BANNING OF DEMONSTRATIONS UNDER RIOTOUS ASSEMBLIES ACT. MOST SOUTH AFRICAN WHITES, INCLUDING OPPOSITION UNITED PARTY, HOWEVER, SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT'S ANTI- DEMONSTRATION AND ANTI- STUDENT MEASURES.

5. MAY 16 GATHERING CONCEIVABLY COULD BE LAST GASP OF RIGHT OF FREE ASSEMBLY IN CENTRAL CAPE TOWN.
HURD

UNCLASSIFIED
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CAPET00380
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730547/aaaajjbs.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 CAPE TOWN A-48 (TO BE POUCHED, 197
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Oct-2001 by kuehnbc0>; APPROVED <15 FEB 2002 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980218
Subject: QUIET DEMONSTRATION MARKS END OF FREE ASSEMBLY IN CENTRAL CAPE TOWN
TAGS: PINS, SF
To: AF
BONDON
DURBAN
JOHANNESBURG
PRETORIA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005